**Know the Skills You Need**

**What Do You Need to Know How to Do?**

Skills needed for community development

Certain skills are needed to become a community worker. These skills are not difficult to learn but since they are powerful tools they could be misused. Think of an intelligent computer expert, he/she could use the skills to make a powerful software and at the same time could use the same for developing disastrous viruses. So, you be careful not to use your skills in the wrong manner but in very productive and useful manner.

**Communication Skills:**

Since your target group is the community as a whole, most of you needed skills belong to communication abilities.

**Technical Skills:**

The technical skills you need as community development worker include:

* Public speaker
* Planning
* Managing
* Observing
* Analyzing, and
* Writing
* Accounting skills

The best way to learn these is through being self-taught.

**Personal Skills:**

You also need to develop a personal character that is:

* Honest
* Enthusiastic
* Positive
* Tolerant
* Patient and
* Motivated
* Hardworking
* Humble and
* Forthright

**Other skills:**

**You have to know:**

* How to listen and understand when people talk?
* How to ensure that information is accurate?
* How to illustrate a point and make it interesting to a listener? You do not preach like a preacher.
* Not to make speeches like a politician
* Not to lecture like a professor
* You need to learn how to remain confident while sensitive to others while standing among or in front of many people
* How to know and like people?
* How to avoid being self-centered, vain and arrogant
* How to lead a discussion without being bossy, dictatorial or sarcastic
* How to learn a language fast, and to become familiar with several languages in a community.

**Teach these to yourself:**

You learn skills by doing (not by reading a text book)—if you went to classes in community development, and only sat and took notes, you did not get the best training. You should practice, first in front of you classmates, then in front of a community group.